

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جورديان تايمز لوسية سياسية وصحفية عربية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الرأي"

Ethiopia confirms clashes

ADDIS ABABA, July 28 (AFP). — Over 300 Somali soldiers were killed in clashes with Ethiopian troops in the eastern Ethiopian Ogaden region, it was announced here today. Seventeen Somali tanks and one armoured personnel carrier were also reported destroyed and another carrier seized in fighting so far near Degahabur, 200 kms (125 miles) east of Harar. Quoting the National Revolutionary Operations Command here, the Ethiopian News Agency said the commander of Somalia's 10th tank battalion, Capt. Ahmad Haji was among those killed. Two hundred of the "invading" troops were wiped out in battles in the localities of Slduna, Binagne Birsi and Trivi, the agency said, adding that another 100 were liquidated in a raid on the town of Grawa.

Palestinian meet scheduled here

CAIRO, July 28 (R). — Chiefs of Palestinian affairs in Arab host countries will hold a four-day meeting in Amman on Saturday, Mr. Mohamad Al Farra, Arab League Assistant Secretary General for Palestinian Affairs said here today. Mr. Farra said subjects to be discussed at the session included "Zionist policy of establishing settlements in occupied Arab territories and its effects on Middle East peace efforts." The meeting will be attended by representatives from Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, the Arab League and the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Volume 2, Number 514

AMMAN, FRIDAY, JULY 29, 1977 — SHA'BAN 13, 1397

Price : 50 fils

Liberation war escalates Ethiopian jets downed over Somali territory

ROME, July 28 (R). — The Somali Republic said today it had shot down three Ethiopian jets and a planeload of paratroop over its territory in the widening war in the Horn of Africa.

Hitherto, the republic insisted its regular forces had taken no part in the conflict over possession of the Ogaden desert of Ethiopia, despite Ethiopian claims to the contrary.

Guerrillas of Somali ethnic origin, who certainly have the Republic's overt sympathy, are fighting there to wrest control from Ethiopia's Marxist military rulers of an area believed rich in oil and other minerals.

Today, however, Somali Republic Ambassador Abdullahi Nur said here that three Ethiopian F-5 jets and a C-130 Hercules transport with paratroops aboard crossed Somalia's frontier with the Ogaden and Somali forces shot them down.

"This was the first time that Somali forces had been directly involved in the fighting," he said, of the incident near Somalia's northern town of Hargeisa on Tuesday.

From inside the Ogaden, western Somalia Liberation Front today reported killing and capturing more than 1,000 Ethiopian troops.

The Somali guerrilla movement claimed to have "annihilated" a big Ethiopian paratroop force in a battle for the strategic town of Daghubur in Ethiopia's Harar province — about 160 kms. south of Hargeisa.

Liberation front war claims, issued by Somalia's Sanna news agency, indicated that the Ethiopian army was on the defensive in localities throughout an area of some 170,000 sq kms.

The front claimed townships captured, or battles in progress dotted from one end to the other of a huge, triangular wedge of territory bounded north and south by Somalia and to the west by the mountains of the Ethiopian heartland.

It said 810 Ethiopian troops were killed in Bale province where 10 townships had fallen. Eight Ethiopian tanks had been knocked out.



PRISONERS OF WAR -- This photo was released by ARNA News Agency of Libya with a caption stating "Egyptian prisoners of war in a military camp" Thursday. (AP wirephoto).

Propaganda war to end Egypt, Libya agree on peace plan

CAIRO, July 28 (R). — Libya and Egypt have agreed on an Arab peace plan after fighting a fierce four-day ground and air war last week in the Western Desert, an official Palestinian source said today.

The agreement provides for an end to the bitter propaganda war between the two Arab neighbours from next Monday and a high level meeting between the two countries in either Algiers or Kuwait.

President Anwar Sadat and the Libyan leader, Col. Muammar Qadhafi, agreed to the proposals following the mediation efforts of Palestine Commando leader Yasser Arafat and Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabab Al Ahmad Ti Sabah, the source said.

The source did not say who would represent each side at the talks which it was assumed would deal with Cairo's demands for an end to what it claims are subversive Libyan activities in Egypt.

There was no comment immediately available from Egypt on the peace plan.

But the official Middle East News Agency (MENA) said yesterday that President Sadat had agreed to several points contained in a compromise proposal put forward by Mr. Arafat.

The newspaper said Egyptian forces also captured a large number of "saboteurs" being trained at the camp. Egypt announced during last week's fighting that it had crossed into Libya near Musa'ad to repel a Libyan attack.

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At Washington news conference Carter discusses oil, Begin, arms sales

WASHINGTON, July 28 (R). President Carter said today Israel's decision this week to legalise three settlements on the West Bank had created an obstacle to Middle East peace.

But he said the obstacle could be surmounted and added that he had urged Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin to exercise restraint on the issue of new settlements.

Mr. Carter told a press conference new settlements on the West Bank would cause the United States "great concern."

He said the subject of legalising the three settlements did not come up in last week's talks with Mr. Begin because "I didn't think of it."

The question of Israeli settlements had always been characterised by his administration as "illegal," said the president.

He thought the question of representation of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation remained one of the major issues to be resolved.

Pressed for his view on the Israeli move on the West Bank settlements, he said that during his talks with Mr. Begin he explained American concern over the settlement problem.

"He (Mr. Begin) listened to me very carefully," the president said. "He said this was a major political issue in Israel... but he was certainly aware of my concern."

Mr. Carter seemed to go out of his way not to make the Israeli settlement of occupied Arab territory any more controversial than it has become.

The president also said the administration adhered to its goal of reducing overall arms sales despite recent decisions in principle to sell arms to Somalia and Sudan.

Arafat to confer with Sarkis on Palestinian, Lebanese relations

BEIRUT, July 28 (R). — Palestine Liberation Organisation chairman Yasser Arafat is expected to confer with Lebanese President Elias Sarkis shortly on relations between the commandos and Lebanon, Palestinian sources said today.

The two sides reached agreement earlier this week on putting into effect the 1969 Cairo agreement which regulates the Palestinians' presence in Lebanon. The agreement was also intended to halt fighting in south Lebanon between the commandos and Lebanese rightists.

But travellers from the South said tension had remained high in the area and reported five people killed and 17 wounded in clashes yesterday.

The mass circulation daily newspaper An Nahar, quoting informed sources, said today the application of the Cairo accord on the south would begin within a week pending the government's efforts to set up the force which would police the area.

The usually well-informed independent newspaper Al Anwar said preliminary steps have already begun.

These steps, according to the paper, included:

1. Determining the geographical boundaries of Palestinian refugee camps and specifying the points in which Arab peace-keeping troops will be stationed at the entrances to the camps.
2. Commencing the collection of heavy weapons "which will be under Palestinian supervision but with the knowledge of the Lebanese army and the Arab peace-keeping troops."
3. Banning the appearance in militia uniforms and carrying weapons inside and outside the camps, "except for members of the Palestinian security men inside the camps."
4. Separating the camps from their surrounding areas and undertaking a census of Palestinians outside the camps "so that Lebanese law pertaining to non-Lebanese residents may be applied to them."

The rightwing Phalangist radio quoted official sources as saying that Lebanese regular troops which would be deployed in the south would not be a fighting force.

It also quoted a spokesman for the Arab peace-keeping force as saying that arrangements for the implementation of the agreement were proceeding.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for

Libyan minister blames Egypt's social problems for border conflict

PARIS, July 28 (R). — Libyan Foreign Minister Abdel Salam Tureiki today lashed out at Egypt for attacking his country, saying Cairo should solve its own economic and social problems rather than turn against an Arab neighbour.

The minister was speaking to reporters after conferring with French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing.

"Egypt, as you all know, faces enormous economic and social problems at home," he said. "It is regrettable that Egypt has failed to solve its dramatic problems and finds it easier to launch a direct aggression against a brotherly neighbouring Arab country."

When asked whether he had discussed new arms purchases from France, he replied: "Libya cooperates with France in many fields, including the military field. We are continuing our cooperation."

The jamahiriya is one of France's best arms customers. The Libyans have bought French missile-firing patrol boats, helicopters and Mirage F-1 combat aircraft, in addition to a deal for 110 Mirage 3 and Mirage 5 aircraft clinched two years ago.

France, together with its common market partners, mainly Italy and West Germany, hopes in due course to supplant Soviet influence in the jamahiriya which has turned to the Kremlin for SAM missiles and other sophisticated military equipment.

Dr. Tureiki also discussed with President Giscard d'Estaing the Libyan-Chad border dispute and the Toubou rebellion in the Tibesti desert against the central Chad government in N'djamena.

"We deplore the situation existing inside Chad," he said. "And we are studying the possibility of helping the Chad government towards a national reconciliation. We are making all efforts in this direction."

Mr. Giscard d'Estaing's spokesman said the French president pointed out to the Libyan minister that the Libyan-Chad border dispute should be settled through negotiation with the aid of neighbouring African countries.

The president considers the Tibesti problem as an internal affair of Chad and urges a reconciliation between the rebellious population and the Central Chad government. African countries concerned should encourage such a reconciliation, he was quoted as having told Dr. Tureiki.

S. African demo broken up; Church supports blacks

JOHANNESBURG, July 28 (Agencies). — Police in Johannesburg's restive black townships today used teargas for the second time in a week to break up student demonstrations.

Discontent over South Africa's segregated educational system also mounted in Pretoria. Where police detained 183 of the 20,000 pupils who have been boycotting classes for four days, a police spokesman said.

The students are demanding equal education with white children.

In Soweto, South Africa's biggest black township, students abandoned classes and took to the streets, stoning passing cars and attacked other blacks with sticks and stones, police sources said.

Teargas was fired when the Soweto students massed for a meeting on whether to join the Pretoria boycott. The students broke up but later reassembled, deciding to refuse to study when they attended classes tomorrow.

A police spokesman described the atmosphere in Soweto tonight as quiet but tense.

In Pammanskraal the South African Council of Churches (SACC) today called for

Regular troops Ethiopia says the Somali Republic has thrown regular troops into the Ogaden fighting.

Washington reports have suggested that Somalia put out feelers, through Saudi Arabia, in a quest for western arms.

But Mr. Nur said today Somalia would not change its policy of keeping close links with the Soviet Union unless constrained to do so.

Would its attitude change if Soviet arms were used against forces operating in the Ogaden?

"We could not be indifferent in this case," the ambassador said.

Yemen premier in Moscow

In Moscow it was reported that Southern Yemen's Prime Minister and defence chief, Mr. Ali Nasser Mohammad, has arrived for discussions apparently linked with the tense situation in the Horn of Africa.

The Defence Ministry daily Red Star said Mr. Mohammad, whose country's armed forces are equipped with Soviet tanks

Bhutto, 15 others, freed in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, July 28 (R). — Pakistan's new military rulers today freed ex-premier Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, detained when an army coup toppled his government three weeks ago.

Also freed were 15 other political leaders taken into military custody during the July 5 coup, which followed four months of post-election political unrest in Pakistan.

Army Chief of Staff General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haque proclaimed martial law following the coup, in order to quell violence that had claimed some 350 lives.

Opponents of Mr. Bhutto claimed his people's party had rigged the general election earlier this year that swept it back to power.

General Zia-ul-Haque pledged

that the elections would be "free and honest" and that he would hand over power to properly elected civilian authorities after the poll. Both the PNA and Mr. Bhutto's Pakistan People's party (PPP) will be accorded equal television and radio broadcasting time.

Public processions by political parties will be forbidden, Gen. Zia-ul-Haque said.

They will be free to carry out limited political activities after Aug. 1 but will be forbidden to hold any political rallies until the end of the Muslim Ramadan fast in mid-September. Gen. Zia-ul-Haque, who announced yesterday that Mr. Bhutto and other detained leaders were to be released, said the end of Ramadan would signal the opening of a political campaign for general elections in October.

Gen. Zia-ul-Haque pledged

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Jordan Times

Independent Arab newspaper
published in the Jordan Press Foundation

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Editorial and Advertising Office:
JORDAN PRESS FOUNDATION
University Street, P.O. Box 5718, Amman, Jordan
Tel. 5711000/1, Cable: JORTIMES

Customs officials graduated after training course

AMMAN (JNA). — Minister of Finance and Customs Mohammad Dabbas Thursday graduated 40 customs employees, who have completed two courses on the most advanced techniques in customs inspection.

The courses, held at the Institute of Public Administration, were organised by the Ministry of Finance in cooperation with the institute.

A number of experts from the U.S. Customs Department, who supervised the courses, attended the ceremony.

At the end of the ceremony, Mr. Dabbas distributed certificates to the graduates and token gifts to the U.S. experts.

The graduation was attended by the Under-Secretary at the Ministry of Finance, Mr. Yassin Al Kayed, and the Director of the Institute of Public Administration, Dr. Abdullah Zouayeb.



His Highness Crown Prince Hassan meets village dignitaries during a tour of 25 towns and villages in the Jorash and Ajloun districts Wednesday. They explained the educational, health and water projects being carried out in their areas. Prince Hassan emphasised the government's intention to provide social services and public utilities in every village. He said a large amount of money has been allotted to finance projects in the area. He was accompanied by the ministers of public works, health, communications and municipalities and a number of senior officials.

Tourist talks with Egypt centre on joint action

AMMAN (JNA). — Jordan and Egypt Thursday morning started official talks here to consolidate tourist cooperation.

At their first meeting at the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, the two sides discussed linking Jordan and Egypt by a number of maritime lines to operate between Aqaba and Suez and launching joint publicity campaigns in foreign countries to highlight tourist-sites in both countries.

They also discussed the question of issuing a joint tourist publication and training hotel management employees from the two countries.

The Jordanian team to the talks was headed by Director General of Tourism, Michael Hamamneh, and the Egyptian team by the Under-Secretary at the Egyptian Ministry of Tourism, Mr. Adel Taher.

Mr. Taher arrived here Thursday morning at the head of an Egyptian tourist delegation on a three-day visit at the invitation of the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities.

In a statement made on his arrival, Mr. Taher said that Jordan is considered a principal tourist gateway to the Arabian Peninsula, as is Egypt to north Africa.

Cabinet delegates Dr. Dajani to sign W. Germany accord

AMMAN (JNA). — The Cabinet Thursday delegated Minister of Industry and Commerce Dr. Najmeddine Dajani to act on its behalf during the exchange of documents concerning the encouragement and protection of investment agreement between Jordan and West Germany to be held next month.

It also delegated Civil Aviation Department Director General Sharif Ghazi Rakani to sign a bilateral air transport agreement with Kuwait.

Narrow determination

While in Washington, Mr. Menachem Begin spoke lyrically of peace and put on a charming act for the benefit of the American president and public that averted the much feared verbal confrontation between him and Mr. Carter. The real confrontation came scarcely three days after the last encounter between the two men.

It is clear now that a meeting of minds did not take place; Mr. Begin it turns out was humouring if not patronising the American president. It is clear that Mr. Begin intends to do exactly as he pleases, come what may. Those who were hoping the Israeli prime minister had a flexible mind are bound to be disappointed; his flexibility is a matter of appearance, adroit prestidigitation, it is a question of showmanship. Mr. Begin has shown that he can do a passable magic act.

Yet the problems of the Middle East are not a matter of appearances and cannot be solved by sleight of hand. Mr. Begin cannot make the Palestinians disappear, he cannot strike the Arabs with amnesia so that they will forget their occupied lands, he cannot undo untold grievances, the injustice and the deprivation which have affected so many human lives for so many years through a cunning manipulation of peripheral phenomena.

It is adamantly clear now that Mr. Begin hopes, through sheer determination, to mould history and the destiny of the Middle East, if not the world, in the image of his will.

Mr. Begin has charisma, he makes a good orator. He got where he is not through wisdom and statesmanship but through unflinching determination and unyielding willpower. There is a difference between wisdom and cunning, political manoeuvring and statesmanship, appearance and reality, narrow determination and the breadth of vision required to make peace. In that respect Mr. Begin is sadly lacking. It takes a different sort of moral courage than he has got to rescue the area from catastrophe. A man who proposes to solve the problems of the Middle East by waving a magic wand is a dangerous man indeed. We greatly fear that the security he seeks for his countrymen will prove as illusory as the dream world he is trying to create for them.

American water skiing champion heads for Aqaba to train Jordan's competition team

Aqaba has not yet revealed all its multiple resources. This year-round playground already has its devoted clientele. But it can also provide sport and leisure activities for a wider public, especially young people. Several experiments are being attempted in this respect. A few days ago an American water skiing champion -- Roland Hillier -- arrived in Amman. From there, he immediately proceeded to Aqaba, where he has a lot of work to do.

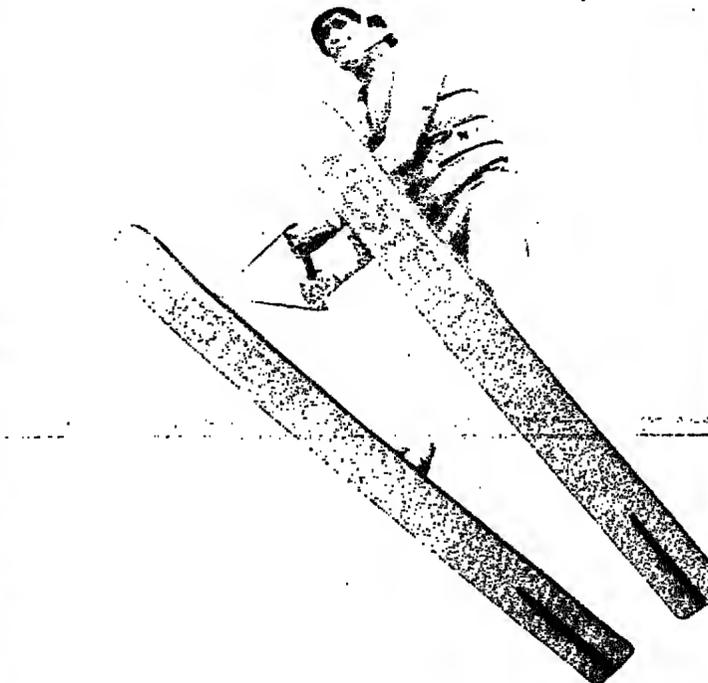
By Irene Ramadan
Special to the Jordan Times

What precisely brought Hillier to Amman? In fact, it was Simon Khoury who had the idea of calling for such a skilful sportsman. Simon Khoury is now working on a sports and tourist centre in Aqaba called Aquamarine. This centre -- part of it already in existence will include an 80-bed hotel, 10 bungalows, a games room, restaurant, snack bar, cinema, discotheque, gift shop, youth hostel, where young people can be housed at a very reasonable price, a jetty and a complete water maintenance system.

The purpose of this centre is to attract young people and provide them with all that is necessary for water sports. Youngsters can now find schools for diving, sailing, surfing and water skiing. It is also possible to fish or take to the sea on a pedalo, gondola, flat bottom canoe or a simple boat.

Simon Khoury asked Roland Hillier to stay for a while in Aqaba, especially to train young people for championships and so create a Jordanian team which will be able to participate in world tournaments.

Simon Khoury himself is an expert in the field. Besides being champion in water skiing several times, he has to his credit a brilliant career in Florida's famous Cypress Garden, where he has been the organiser of diving shows over the past 13 years. And most of the time he has taken part.



Roland Hillier -- water skier extraordinaire -- flies through the air after a wotery takeoff.

During his stay in Amman, Roland Hillier will be training people in water skiing. He will also prepare the team to take part in the water skiing festival on Nov. 14 -- the anniversary of King Hussein's ascension to the throne.

Roland Hillier is in the top bracket in water skiing. This handsome 31-year-old sportsman started his sports career at the age of 15, when he participated in a jumping tournament in Tampa, Florida. He won first prize with a jump of 77 feet. He has many world championships under his belt, whether from Australia, Georgia or Florida.

While doing all these spectacular things, Hillier was also training people for water skiing. He has taught over 1,000 people. His youngest was only five and his oldest -- 83.

"This kind of sport, suits everybody. Moreover, water skiing is a complete sport because it makes all the muscles of the body work at the same time. You also enjoy yourself while you are doing a very beneficial physical exercise. Initially everybody is able to water ski," he explained.

But Roland Hillier will primarily be busy training a Jordanian team for competitions. Although more difficult, it also has its good side: It is a great sensation to slalom on a slight wavy sea and to jump and float for a while in the air before landing again on the surface.

Hashish users sentenced to jail terms

AMMAN (JNA). — The military governor general Thursday confirmed prison sentences passed by a special military court on four persons for possession and use of hashish.

Mohammad Najeh Jado and Ragheb Moussa Salmami were sentenced to five years in prison with hard labour and a JD 500 fine for possession and use of hashish, while Mohammad Taker Dahdoush and Mohammad Awad Ismail Alyan were sentenced to a six-month prison term with hard labour and a JD 50 fine for use of hashish.

PRINCE HASSAN RECEIVES BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGIST

AMMAN (JNA). — His Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Viceroy, Thursday received the British archaeologist, Kathleen Kenyon.

His Highness granted her an Independence Medal of the Second Order for her services in the field of archaeology in Jordan.

Mrs. Kenyon is currently excavating the Citadel here, in addition to other digs in various parts of the Kingdom.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Jordanian dailies Thursday commented on Israel's official recognition of settlements on the West Bank and on the possible failure of a peaceful solution to the Middle East conflict.

AL DUSTOUR said that immediately after the return of Mr. Menachem Begin to Israel from the USA he announced the legislation of three Israeli settlements on the West Bank which had been planned by the ultra-nationalist organisation of Gush Emmunim. The establishment of these settlements was met by an American disapproval in the form of statements of condemnation by Secretary of State Cyrus Vance.

The paper, however, added that the U.S. statements condemning this Israeli act would not put an end to any Israeli aggression. The American reaction, the paper said, since all the atrocities previously committed by Israel have not stopped the U.S. from supplying Mr. Begin with arms and from participating in the Israeli armaments industry.

The paper concluded by saying that Washington is able to resort to measures other than just these statements of condemnation if it is really serious in putting an end to Israeli challenge. Washington can put a limit on its aid and arms supply to Israel otherwise the Arabs must prepare themselves to hear more of these tranquillising statements made by President Carter, Mr. Vance and others.

AL SHAB' said that as the Israeli government recognised the three new settlements on the West Bank, the ultra-nationalist organisation of Gush Emmunim announced that it has plans for 10 more settlements on the West Bank.

Both the legislation and the planning for more settlements is a proof that Israel does not desire peace but is

eager to acquire more land, to legalise its occupation of Arab lands and to challenge all human rights, the paper added.

Such Israeli acts do not only challenge international legal conventions but also constitute an obstacle to the peace-making process as Mr. Vance has already stated. The paper continued that these Israeli acts are not the first of their kind and would not be the last as long as the U.N. and the USA remain silent over these Israeli violations. This, because the USA was contented by only expressing its disappointment at such an Israeli act, the paper said.

The paper concluded by saying that the USA, for the sake of peace, could offer more than just a statement expressing its disappointment.

AL AKHBAR said that due to Mr. Begin's recent statements in the U.S. the failure of a peace settlement in the Middle East has become more possible.

Mr. Begin's peace plan and the decision of the Israeli government to recognise more settlements in occupied territories have created additional dangers for peace.

The paper added that after the failure of a peace settlement the most dangerous consequences would be a possible confrontation between the Arab countries themselves and not between them and Israel. The paper explained that these Arab states that were not convinced of the American peace effort would be more radical in their criticism of the Arab states which accepted a peaceful solution, and since rarely the Arabs admit their faulty evaluations, a severe confrontation would eventually take place.

Such a confrontation, the paper concluded, would lead to more divisions and disunity among the Arabs who are expected to be united in order to face a possible confrontation with Israel.



MENTALLY SICK -- Jordanian Fiedallah Kamel sits handcuffed at Rome airport's police station after his arrest Thursday. Police said that he had become abusive on an Alitalia flight from New York to Rome. He held a knife to a woman passenger's throat before being overpowered by crew members. He did not attempt to hijack the airliner. Airport sources said the man appeared to be mentally sick. (AP wirephoto).

U.S. BAND PLAYS HERE



The American band, Southern Comfort, gave a show at the Military College in Zarqa Thursday. The band is here on a visit to perform alongside the Miami Jazz Band at the Palace of Culture Sunday evening.

ALO report states Arab brain drain to U.S., Canada intense

CAROL, July 28 (JNA). — A total of 53,810 Arab doctors, engineers, biologists and sociologists have emigrated to the United States and Canada in the 1962-1969 period, according to an Arab Labour Organisation (ALO) research paper on Arab manpower and development.

The paper attributed emigration to a disproportion between work given to an individual and his specialisation, scanty work opportunities, lack of an appropriate scientific climate, an increase of work-improving circumstances, and a desire for a better material life.

The brain drain to non-Arab countries is seriously depriving Arab countries of the technical and scientific skills needed for development, the research adds.

The number of doctors who emigrated to the U.S. and Canada from 1962-69 amounts to one third of the total number of doctors in Tunisia and North and South Yemen combined. A total of 2,138 engineers, biologists and sociologists emigrated to other foreign countries in the same period.

The total number of emigrants to the U.S. amounts to 37,603 and to Canada 15,207 from 1962-69. However, the Arab brain drain to European countries, notably France, from North Africa, or to Britain from other Arab countries, notably Sudan, was described by the paper as intensive. The ALO possesses no figures on this.

National song festival held

AMMAN. — A Jordanian national song festival was held at the Hayya Arts Centre Thursday afternoon. A number of national songs was performed by members of the arts centre and the Jordanian Army Band.

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WHAT'S GOING ON

Those who are free and can get up early Saturday morning are invited to join Tom Parker on a tour he is giving for the excavators at Um Al Jamal of part of the Roman fort system. His tour will include Halabat, Azraq and other desert forts. The meeting place is in Mafrag at 7.30 a.m. in front of the school for disabled children.

Handwritten text at the bottom of the page.

Part III

Carter and Begin: The American Jewish dilemma

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Eric Rouleau, special correspondent for Le Monde, the French daily newspaper, in the following inquiries analyses Washington's policy in the Middle East, its repercussions on the American political scene and evaluates the risks of possible confrontation between President Carter and Menachem Begin. The article appeared in Le Monde from 8-10 July and thus was written prior to the Carter-Begin meeting in Washington.

Imperturbable, but probably irritated by this public outcry, Carter for several weeks refused to meet any of the leaders of Jewish organisations, then finally saw them on July 6. He generally prefers to see visiting Israeli figures and members of the powerful Jewish lobby in Washington, who might be in a position to influence the outcome of a possible showdown.

Shortly after assuming his presidential powers in January this year, President Carter assembled his aides at the White House to examine the Middle East conflict. The Middle East file included among others, "a transition report" prepared by the State Department's experts. These experts concluded that the president had two choices: an energetic action to find an overall solution to the Middle East conflict would be a bit risky but could succeed; the president's inaction on the other hand would lead surely to a catastrophe.

The arguments put forward were the same as those advanced by the president's closest advisers on foreign policy during and after his election. Mr. Henry Owen and Mr. Zbigniew Brzezinski both signatories of the Brookings report agreed that a continued deadlock will lead to another war which this time would implicate directly the superpowers. They estimate that a grave danger threatens Arab regimes, which have chosen the peaceful process having placed their bets on American mediation. The failure of their policies would oblige them to harden their positions to avoid being replaced by revolutionary elements.

If this happens, a deadly blow would be dealt to the peace process in the Middle East. The political, economic and social changes which might result from such a change of leadership would be detrimental to the West. American influence in the Middle East would crumble. Washington's interests and influence in the region have not been as great as they are now. Considerable investment profits, particularly in the oil field, the massive sales of American equipment and the influx of petrodollars which enriches the American balance of payments at the rate of \$15 billion per annum. In three years, exports to Arab countries (excluding arms sales) have more than doubled while Arab imports have tripled. This all shows the increasing dependence of the U.S. on the Arab World, concerning its supply of oil and its components.

Already preoccupied with the risk of scarcity threatening world oil supply and the increasing deficit of the U.S. energy balance, President Carter is worried about the results of a new major crisis in the Middle East.

Everyone in Washington thinks that in case of conflict, Arab oil states will impose an oil embargo. Mr. James Akins, oil expert and former U.S. ambassador to Saudi Arabia, told us that he feared that the strait of Hormuz would be closed, a step which would strangle the economies of Europe and Japan and throw disorder into that of the U.S.

For the above reasons, it is not astonishing for President Carter therefore to inform his collaborators when meeting

with them at the White House in January, that a settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict was in his eyes "crucial" and "urgent". It was on the same day that he decided that the U.S. should not play only the role of "mediator" but that of "catalyst" -- euphemism to show a more active and conclusive role. Is it of no significance that he had already outlined the guidelines for a settlement before meeting and consulting with Arab leaders?

President Carter had always protested that he shall not impose his views and conceptions. But in the American administration many are those who have and are now of the same opinion as Mr. George Ball, previous under secretary of state and ex-U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, who think that a settlement dictated by Washington could not be avoided, taking into account the belligerents failure to agree on a compromise by themselves.

In a famous article published by Mr. Ball in the Foreign Affairs magazine in April 1977, and entitled "How to save Israel in spite of itself", Mr. Ball wrote that "to intervene and end the deadlock is not just an option but an imperative duty if the world is to be saved from a disaster, the consequences of which could not be foreseen on the geographic field." Mr. Ball, trusted by President Carter who even thought of handing him the State Department, continues: "Until when are we to allow Israeli paranoia to dictate American policies?" While a large number of American high officials agree with Mr. Ball, they all think that a testing of

will between the U.S. and Israel is not to be recommended. Some go as far as to say that the U.S. president will face a humiliating defeat if he clashes prematurely with the pro-Israeli "lobby".

The term "lobby" is usually used to designate the majority officials at the Israeli Embassy in Washington, the American Jewish organisations and pressure groups which certain of them have in Washington, as well as the vast network of allies these organisations have throughout the U.S. notably in the administration, mass media, and particularly in the Congress.

However, the term "lobby" officially is the American-Israeli Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) directed by Mr. Morris Amitay, a U.S. citizen of Israeli origin. A former official at the State Department, the 40 year old Amitay coordinates the actions of the various pro-Israeli groups. He worked for the Labour government in Israel and rallied to Mr. Begin after his victory.

Some say he has extensive and occult powers. His name is pronounced with respect, fear or irritation in Capitol Hill. "His seductive offers have no equal except the brutality of his warnings" one senator told us. He has demonstrated that he can harm or help the careers of many politicians. A word from him could influence financial backers choice of his voters.

The AIPAC director's most favourite weapon is the pen. A congressman considered to have adopted an anti-Israeli stand or project is flooded with letters of protest from his constituents, friends and important officials asking him to change his stand or give up his project. The White House lately has received numerous such letters protesting against the "Carter plan" for a Middle East peace settlement.

Mr. Amitay appears to be the leader of a party not well defined but having the whole Jewish community as its base.

Relying on a number of congressmen, staunchly pro-Israeli -- numbering ten in the Senate and 50 in the Congress -- Mr. Amitay can make deals in both houses to enact or stop legislations. In exchange for these services he gets the support of those he served to defend Israel's interests. Conservative congressmen, those in favour of the cold war, and opponents of a normalisation of relations with Cuba or U.S. military disengagement in Korea offer their votes to the friends of Mr. Amitay. One of

them. They concede that the Congress, wishing to keep its autonomy and added power acquired since the Watergate affair, will start resisting the president. But they also advocate a number of arguments that Carter in the end will win.

Judging by the press reactions and certain public opinion polls carried out, the majority of Americans are favourable to the "Carter plan" if he convinces them without the slightest doubt that he will guarantee Israel's security.

Many of them have now a more impartial and unbiased opinion of the conflict and can see and evaluate the extent of American influence and interests in Arab countries. Therefore, they are more inclined to accept that any settlement should take into account Arab interests.

Senator Abraham Ribicoff, whose name was closely associated with the "lobby" of Mr. Amitay (who was one of his collaborators) has been severely criticised by the Jewish press following his return

from a tour which took him to Egypt and Jordan. "I have been able to see that the Arab countries truly desire peace. Peace is urgent as the conflict is ruining Israel as well as its adversaries".

Senator Egleton former candidate to the U.S. vice presidency, had always been a staunch supporter of Israel, like Ribicoff (both had signed the petition to President Ford signed by 76 senators in 1975). "I myself and several of my voters," he told us, "have been shocked at Mr. Begin's declarations. The proposals made by President Carter are the only reasonable path leading to peace. If we have to prevent a new war Israel should withdraw to its 1967 borders, but with guarantees for its security. The Palestinians should be able to dispose of a homeland in the West Bank."

Observers in Washington who think that confrontation would possibly have taken place if the Labour Party had won are sure that it is inevitable with the advent of the Likud to power. Having this in mind they think that President Carter should act immediately, in particular before the change which is to take place in the Congress with congressional elections in November 1978 and the change of one third of senators in the Senate. This might lead a number of representatives to adopt positions contrary to their beliefs.

President Carter, who wants to avoid any confrontation, will multiply his appeasing gestures. But vividly preoccupied with the disastrous consequences which a prolonged deadlock might create and being an "obstinate" man he would not hesitate to meet the challenge of the Jewish lobby, if necessary, by referring directly to the American people to explain to them the causes and consequences of the challenge. That's what he was reported to have told top ranking Arab officials



Carter and Begin, faced with a dilemma

his most outstanding successes is the letter which 76 senators out of 100 addressed to President Ford in April 1975 asking him to give up trying to put pressure on Israel. "It was easier to accept addressing such a letter to President Ford, than to face the "lobby", one of the outstanding signatories of the letter told us.

Those who advise President Carter to put pressure on Israel by reducing U.S. aid to that country think -- as do the leaders of the Jewish community themselves -- that the "lobby" is "certainly very powerful" but not "omnipotent".

Also Mr. Begin's inflammatory declarations have helped to alienate a large part of the public opinion, in particular Jewish, and the misconceptions the Americans had about the Arabs are slowly fading away after the Arabs have declared they are disposed to accept peace.

This evolution is more noticeable on Capitol Hill. Since the 1973 war some 250 U.S. congressmen, among whom were present a number of Jewish personalities, have paid visits to Arab countries, Saudi Arabia included. They were warmly welcomed. Previously

congressmen visited only Israel. Many of them have now a more impartial and unbiased opinion of the conflict and can see and evaluate the extent of American influence and interests in Arab countries.

Therefore, they are more inclined to accept that any settlement should take into account Arab interests. Senator Abraham Ribicoff, whose name was closely associated with the "lobby" of Mr. Amitay (who was one of his collaborators) has been severely criticised by the Jewish press following his return

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Pound gains against dollar and mark

LONDON, July 28 (R). — The pound sterling, which started moving sharply upwards yesterday in the unsettled international currency climate, made fresh gains today against the dollar and the mark.

It sent Britons in their hundreds to queue happily at banks and travel agencies, getting more value for their pounds for the first time for many months as they set off for foreign holidays.

The dollar, which saw another sharp drop last night following weeks of decline, was steadier today.

Anger was expressed in West Germany last night at the way in which the Carter administration was apparently happy to see the dollar go down, and there have been calls for intervention to prop up the U.S. currency.

The pound sterling jumped

almost another half a cent on the London Foreign Exchange Market from last night's close of \$1.7375, reaching \$1.7422 at one stage before easing back to \$1.7405.

Dealers said there was still a strong demand for sterling although the market was not as hectic as yesterday.

Sterling's climb came after the Bank of England yesterday suddenly changed its tactics of the last seven months and stopped keeping the pound pegged close to the value of the dollar.

The British Central Bank had been operating on the market to maintain the pound at around \$1.72.

But the dollar has been weakening for several weeks and dragging sterling down with it. The Bank of England said that from now on it would try to keep sterling steady gener-

rally against the currencies of Britain's major trading partners instead of tying it just to the dollar.

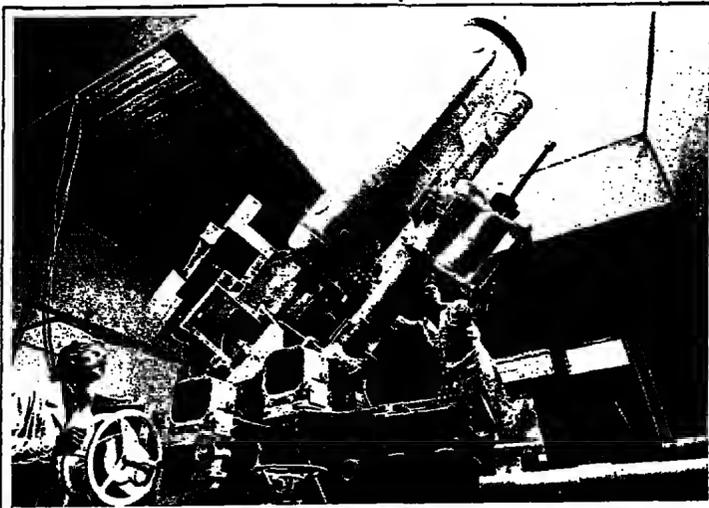
Sterling has been moving upwards since being unlocked from the dollar. But dealers thought the Bank of England may have intervened today apparently to stem any rise above \$1.7420.

Sterling was quoted at 3.9405 marks against 3.8340 earlier.

The dollar steadied despite its sharp dip last night after the announcement of a record \$2.82 billion U.S. trade deficit for June. Anticipation of a big American trade deficit for this year caused the initial trouble of the dollar.

Dealers thought there might be some move to prop up the dollar following several calls for more control.

West German Finance Minister Hans Apel has warned that Germany's recovery could be endangered by monetary unrest through a declining dol-



LASER PROBES INTO ATMOSPHERE — Is it possible instantaneously to obtain accurate characteristics of the earth atmosphere within a vast range of altitudes? Quite recently the task seemed fantastic, but with the development of laser research technology it has become realistic.

A laser probing instrument used by the central aerological observatory of the Main Administration of Hydrometeorological Service at the Council of Ministers of the USSR is called "lidar".

A laser beam aimed at a certain point in the skies instantaneously pierces the atmosphere from the near-earth layers to the uppermost ones. In its way it meets various aerosols, including hard particles and minute water drops. These aerosols disperse and reflect the beam, and part of it gets back to the earth. By measuring the interval between the time the beam was emitted and the time the return signal came back, and also other characteristics the scientists accurately estimate the altitude and other properties of the reflecting layer, including the content of aerosols and humidity. Examining one layer after another, the scientists get an accurate picture of the atmosphere.

Depending on the tasks of the experiment, the instrument can operate in one of the three wavebands: ultraviolet, visible, and infra-red.

Laser probing is an efficient means of studying the atmosphere and is of great help to the weathermen.

The photo shows weathermen preparing the "lidar" for probing the atmosphere.

Use of fossil fuels may alter earth's climate

WASHINGTON, July 28 (AFP). — Continued use of coal, gas and oil as fuel will cause major changes in the planet's climate, the National Research Council (NRC) said in a report here.

The council, which is under the wing of the National Academy of Sciences, said that concentrated carbon dioxide would mean a heating up of the climate.

It said: "There are profound uncertainties regarding the carbon cycle, the climate and their interdependence."

The carbon dioxide accumulation would bring about a sharp temperature rise. If present trends continued, average temperatures would rise six degrees centigrade (11 degrees Fahrenheit) by the 22nd century, and perhaps more in the polar regions.

The oceans could rise by five metres (about 15 feet) and threaten cities. It would be possible to farm nearer the poles.

The report said there was no immediate cause for alarm, but "we have to be prepared to go to other sources than in about 50 years."

ILO director flies to Washington

GENEVA, July 28 (R). — The Director General of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), Mr. Francis Blanchard, flew to Washington today from Paris for talks with leading government, labour and management officials, informed sources said here today.

The United States has threatened to leave the Geneva-based ILO in November because of the increasing intrusion of political issues.

Mr. Blanchard, a Frenchman, will meet Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, Labour Secretary Ray Marshall, AFL-CIO President George Meany and other top officials, the sources said.

Battle is brewing over the vegetable oils

By Roy Laishley

LONDON (Gemini) — A major battle between soya bean and palm-oil producers for the industrial world does not seem to have been averted by the latest UNCTAD attempt at commodity negotiations.

At a meeting just held in Geneva, various schemes, all aimed at price stabilisation, were dismissed as developing country producers made clear their concern for improving their share of the vegetable oils market.

Only on one issue — trade liberalisation for processed and semi-processed oils — were producers keen to speak with one voice. But here they met firm opposition from the consuming countries.

This would benefit countries like Brazil and Malaysia, but poorer producers are in need of more drastic measures. Further discussions have now been relegated to another "experts" group.

With ten different oils under consideration, agreement on one set of measures was not likely. The vegetable oil trade is extremely complex.

Edible oils include soya, sunflower, sesame, rapeseed, groundnuts, coconut oil and palm oil — all are from different plants, and many from different countries, but all interchangeable as blending agents in margarines, fat or soap.

able in the various blending processes price and supply security are crucial factors in the selection of oils. On the second point vegetable oils have benefited from the curbs and quotas suffered by rival fish-basins oils.

But Malaysia is now pursuing an aggressive pricing policy — a virtual subsidy to exporters — that in the Geneva meeting brought sharp cries of protest from the U.S. Only last year U.S. farmers

Unilever. But compensatory financing schemes like the European Economic Community's Stabex could offer some security for a commodity that does experience wide price fluctuations. Benin, Fiji, Niger and Upper Volta have already benefited.

More interest is shown in market promotion, and in increased processing by developing country producers. This would indeed offer greater returns to trade.

Processing vegetable oils is

Police arrest three men for sabotage of Alaska oil pipeline

FAIRBANKS, Alaska, July 28 (R). — Police have arrested three men in connection with a series of bomb attacks on the new Alaska oil pipeline.

Police said today William Freeman, 21, and Donald Drum, 19 had been charged with malicious destruction of property and were being held without bail.

Both live within a few kms. of where an attempt was made to dynamite the pipeline and their homes are in the same area as that of Larry Wertz, 26, who was charged earlier with trying to sabotage a section of the pipe with explosives.

Wertz, an unemployed fur trapper who police say was disgruntled over construction of the trans-Alaska pipeline, was charged with malicious destruction of property.

Inspector Robert McCoy said Wertz did not appear to be a member of any organised group.

He said troopers were aware of "negative comments" Wertz had made about the pipeline, which has yet to deliver its

Spain formally applies for EEC membership

BRUSSELS, July 28 (AFP). — Spain today formally applied for membership of the European Economic Community (EEC), as well as the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) and Euratom.

The application was handed in at Brussels by Spanish Foreign Minister Marcelino Oreja to Henri Simonet, who is current chairman of the EEC Council of Ministers.

Spain is the third Mediterranean nation to apply after Greece late in 1975 and Portugal in March this year.

It was generally considered in Brussels that politically Spain could validly claim membership of the EEC.

However, there are substantial economic problems. France and Italy are afraid of keener competition from Spanish farm produce, and they have already been pressing for a revision of the EEC rules on agriculture.

West Germany is concerned about a possible wave of Spanish workers.

In the industrial sphere, Spain could prove a more formidable rival for existing EEC countries in such sectors as steel, ship-building and textiles. But Spain, too, will be easier to penetrate for some existing EEC companies.

Speaking at a brief ceremony at the Egmont Palace here Mr. Oreja said: "We want to belong to a Europe which has political ideals that we share."

He said the application was based on "a very broadly expressed desire in Spain."

Replying, Mr. Simonet voiced hope that Spain's entry bid could be accomplished. "It will not be easy", he warned. "The

problems which it raises are proportional with what is at stake — the extension of the EEC to a country of Western Europe, full of history and promises."

ESSEN, West Germany, July 28 (R). Iran has increased its stake in the West German steel and manufacturing concern Fried Krupp Holding Company to 16.9 per cent, a company spokesman said here yesterday.

The latest purchase brings Iran's investment in the holding company to 101.57 million marks (\$25.31 million) or one sixth of the capital stock of 601.57 million marks (\$150.39 million).

Last October the oil-producing state also acquired a 21.0 per cent stake in Krupp's engineering and steel combine, a subsidiary of the holding company.

Another agreement was also signed at the time providing for Iran to increase its share in the holding company to 25.01 per cent.

Iran increases stake in Krupp

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

Saudi riyal	91.5	91.8
Lebanese pound	104.1	104.5
Syrian pound	80.3	80.7
Iraqi dinar	950.00	955.00
Kuwaiti dinar	1127.0	1132.0
Egyptian pound	465.0	470.0
Libyan dinar	700.0	710.00
UAE dirham	82.9	83.3
U.K. sterling	559.0	565.0
U.S. dollar	324.0	326.0
German mark	144.6	145.0
French franc	67.7	67.9
Swiss franc	136.5	136.9
Italian lira (for every 100)	36.9	37.1

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies against the dollar at the close of inter-bank trading on the London Foreign Exchange Market yesterday. Tourist rates will differ from those quoted below.

One sterling	= 1.7373 / 78	U.S. dollars
One dollar	= 2.2735 / 50	West German marks
	2.4380 / 4400	Dutch guilders
	2.4000 / 20	Swiss francs
	35.15 / 18	Belgian francs
	4.8380 / 400	French francs
	881.05 / 25	Italian lire
	265.60 / 75	Japanese yen
	4.3210 / 40	Swedish crowns
	5.2370 / 400	Norwegian crowns
	5.9240 / 70	Danish crowns

WALL STREET REPORT

Prices recovered moderately Thursday on the New York Stock Exchange, where the industrial average finished on a gain of 1.65 points after Wednesday's dramatic 19.75 point drop, its worst daily showing in more than two years.

The session was mixed. Prices continued their decline at the opening, but rebounded in the afternoon, since some blue chip issues attracted buyers with the Dow Jones industrial average at an 18-month low.

Losers, however, outnumbered advances at the close by an 831 to 607 margin.

Among the most active shares, Bethlehem Steel lost 7/8 at 22-7/8 and ITT was off one point at 33-3/4.

At the close, the industrial average shows at 889.98, a gain of 1.56 points; Transp at 230.47, a loss of 1.95; utilities at 116.95, a loss of 0.03. 26,340,000 shares changed hands, of which 4,620,000 during the last hour.

LONDON MARKET REPORT

Stock prices rose in a quiet session Thursday, dealers said, and at 15:00 the F.T. index was up 6.1 at 440.6.

Leading industrials were up to 9p higher, but oils were mixed after the weakness on Wall Street. Banks gained between 3p and 5p on the day.

Gold shares mostly eased with the lower bullion price fixing Dollar stocks and Australians eased.

Government bonds gained up to 5/8 before profttaking trimmed the gains to around 1/4. Trading interest was moderate, dealers said.

Barclays Bank closed 5p higher on the day after its interim report, while Inchcape showed a net gain of 2p.

Price of gold closed in London Thursday at \$144.35/oz.

VEGETABLE OIL and OILSEEDS

The soya - palm battle

Soyabean output in US has pushed vegetable oils down. But now palm oil threatens soya trade, with Malaysia taking lead.

1975 \$5-50 a bushel

1976 \$4

1977 \$10

Soyabean (30% of all oils traded)

All oilseed prices fluctuate widely

Soya plant

Main exporters (% of world exports)	
US	50
Brazil	12
Philippines	4.7
Canada	4.4
Malaysia	4.4
India	2.8

How countries depend on oilseed exports

Country	% of total exports
GAMBIA	84
SAMOA	50
BENIN	45
SENEGAL	34

found themselves competing with Malaysian palm oil in their own domestic markets.

Malaysia may not have everything its own way. Brazil has recently invested, in conjunction with firms like Unilever, in capital-intensive processing equipment for palm oil. By 1983 it hopes to be producing 250,000 tons.

But clearly between the two, and with other large exporters like the USSR which is developing its exports of sunflower oil, the U.S. faces tough opposition.

All this does not leave much concern for stabilisation measures. The Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) has come out against buffer stocks (except perhaps for coconut oil, where Philippines, Indonesia and Sri Lanka are the major producers) as being too complex and too uncertain in a trade so susceptible to substitution.

This view is endorsed by leading manufacturers like

EEC commission recommends fast breeder reactor construction

BRUSSELS, July 28 (AFP). — The EEC commission today came out in favour of construction of fast breeder reactors in the European Economic Community.

EEC Commissioner for Energy, Guido Brunner, said the commission had made this recommendation to the EEC Council of Ministers on the grounds that there was "a world shortage of uranium."

He said the commission felt that fast breeders would help "reduce the dependence of the community on external supplies of energy resources."

Mr. Brunner said the report to the EEC council stressed that it takes 20 years to complete a fast breeder programme.

Arguing in favour of this technology, based on plutonium which can be obtained through processing of spent nuclear fuels, the commission said fast breeders were able to produce at least 60 times more energy from a given amount of fuel than conventional reactors, such as the boiling water reactors.

"By means of fast breeders, 5,000 tons of uranium could produce as much energy as all the oil of the North Sea, the exploitable reserves of which are estimated at about 3,000 million tons," the commission said.

It made it clear however that it was "fully aware of the problems involved in the utilisation of plutonium."

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Senate panel seeks delay on AWACS sale

WASHINGTON, July 28 (R). — A key Senate panel yesterday decided to appeal to President Carter for a delay in the proposed U.S. sale of advanced radar planes to Iran. The Foreign Relations Subcommittee on Foreign Assistance took the action in an effort to avoid a confrontation with the president over the controversial plan to sell Iran seven airborne warning and control system (AWACS) aircraft. The new appeal will be drafted by Subcommittee Chairman Hubert Humphrey, who said the president would be asked to consider resubmitting the proposed sale to Congress in the third week of Sept., a week after it returns from its summer recess.

Uruguay devalues peso

MONTEVIDEO, July 28 (R). — Uruguay last night devalued the peso by 1.67 per cent against the U.S. dollar, fixing a new rate of 4.71/4.76 pesos unit, compared with 4.63/4.68 previously.

Ethiopia, Romania sign trade agreement

VIENNA, July 28 (R). — Ethiopia and Romania yesterday signed a long-term trade agreement in Bucharest following talks on economic cooperation between the two countries, the official Agerpress Newsw agency reported. No details of the agreement were disclosed.

Libya, Ethiopia sign trade agreement

TUNIS, July 28 (AFP). — Libya and Ethiopia yesterday signed a trade agreement, the Arab Revolution News Agency (ARNA), monitored here, reported. Libyan Treasury Secretary Mohammed Zarrouk Rejab and Ethiopian Finance Minister Teifer Ould Simayet, who is currently visiting Libya, initiated the accord, ARNA said.

Handwritten text in Arabic script at the bottom of the page.

Britain willing to arm Sudan U.S. military team will visit Sudan to talk arms supplies

KHARTOUM, July 28 (Agencies) — A United States military delegation will arrive here in the next week to discuss with Sudanese officials Sudanese armed forces "needs", the Sudan news agency announced today.

The United States announced yesterday that it was prepared to supply Sudan with defensive military equipment.

The Sudan news agency said the U.S. delegation would include three airforce officers, a navy officer and an official from the State Department.

In London, a Foreign Office spokesman said today that Britain is a traditional supplier of arms to the Sudan and will

consider any further requests. He was commenting on the United States government's readiness to sell arms to three countries formerly closely allied to the Soviet Union -- Sudan, Egypt and Somalia.

The spokesman only yesterday said Britain was also ready to consider giving Somalia a modest amount of arms for defensive purposes.

"We have friendly relations with the Sudan," he said today, "we have supplied arms to it in the past and if we get any further requests we will look at them on the same basis as in the past."

British officials in London said the requests are examin-

ed on an ad hoc basis and on their merits. Britain had been supplying arms to the Sudan over a long period. But there was a bad phase in Anglo-Sudanese relations over 15 years ago. Britain, however, restarted arms supplies from 1971.

The State Department in Washington yesterday said the decision on readiness to sell arms to Egypt, Sudan and Somalia -- disclosed this week -- were limited and taken in response to new and separate requests.

Diplomatic observers said that nevertheless they pointed to a growing shift in power alignments in the volatile Horn of Africa following a Soviet decision last December to provide large scale military aid to Ethiopia. Until a military coup in 1974, Ethiopia was a close ally of the United States. Somalia, on Ethiopia's eastern border, has been heavily dependent on Soviet arms. But embittered by Soviet support of its traditional rival, it is turning more to the West to ask for arms supplies.

Golda Meir asked to support return home of Arab villagers

TEL AVIV, July 28 (R). — Former Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir was urged today to make a public declaration in support of Israeli Arabs who want to return to their homes near the Lebanese border.

Prof. Shlomo Avineri, who was Director General of the Foreign Ministry until his resignation when the rightwing

Likud Party government came to power in May, made the call in an open letter to Mrs. Meir, published today in the trades union newspaper Davar. In it he asked her to withdraw her opposition to the Arabs' return.

The residents of Bir'am and Iqrit, two villages near the Lebanese border, were forcibly removed in 1948.

Arab-Americans accuse Carter of prejudice

CHICAGO, July 28 (R). — An Arab-American leader yesterday accused President Carter of damaging his human rights promises by ignoring and discriminating against Arab-American organizations.

Dr. Mohammad Mahdi, President of the American-Arab Relations Committee, told reporters here: "The president has met with American Jewish leaders and we have asked several times to meet with him, but he has discriminated against us."

He said this amounted to selective application of the administration's human rights campaign and added: "We feel the president is really doing damage to his own commitment to human rights."

Dr. Mahdi, who is visiting Arab-American groups in the Midwest, repeated his call for Mr. Carter to meet Mr. Yasser Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization, saying the Palestinian

people were the key to peace in the Middle East.

He also urged an end to all American military aid to the nations of the Middle East: "We are against American arms shipments to the Arab World and to Israel...."

The road to peace is not through armament but through Israeli disarmament.

Dr. Mahdi predicted a re-peal of the 1973 Arab oil embargo if the Carter administration helps Israel to continue to occupy Arab lands, and denounced Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin as a former terrorist who now considers himself a "spokesman for God".

The Arab-American leader expressed confidence that economic realities would force a change in the American attitude towards the Middle East by the 1980s. He said the American need for big Arab markets and Arab oil would force reduction in support for Israel.

Dr. Christian Barnard to quit full-time surgery

CAPE TOWN, July 28 (R). — South African heart transplant pioneer Dr. Christian Barnard, 53 said yesterday he planned to give up full-time surgery within 18 months because of arthritis in his hands.

"But first I want to complete my work on the baboon heart transplant and also some research on the transport and storage of donor hearts," Dr. Barnard told reporters.

The surgeon, who has just returned from a month's holiday, said: "My hands started giving trouble almost as soon as I got back and I have accepted the fact that it will soon be impossible to carry on in full-time surgery."

Dr. Barnard performed the first transplant of a human heart at Cape Town's Groote Schuur Hospital in December 1967. The patient, 55-year-old Louis Washkansky, died 18 days later.

Dr. Barnard said he planned "taking up invitations to advise in the early stages of new heart surgery programmes now being planned in a number of countries."

He said he had already received firm offers from Italy. He said he had already returned to his home in the Republic.

He said he had already retired from full-time surgery he was considering becoming a "travelling ambassador" for South Africa to present the country's point of view abroad.

"I have easy access to the mass media overseas and... we have a point of view that should be heard," Dr. Barnard said.

"I feel I could do a useful job there. As far as surgery is concerned, it is probably the time to think about handing over to the younger men," Dr. Barnard said.

Yves Saint Laurent this autumn, winter goes Chinese

PARIS, July 28 (R). — French couturier Yves Saint Laurent introduced the Imperial Chinese look yesterday at the Paris autumn and winter fashion show.

To the musical accompaniment of gongs and temple bells he led the way to a new oriental fashion style.

In a two-hour presentation to almost 1,000 buyers and reporters M. Saint Laurent drew from the history books of costume to produce lavish brocades and metallic fabrics, glittering embroideries and stylized versions of Chinese silhouettes.

Mandarin jackets in rich brocades were teamed with baggy pants and mid-calf wide boots completed with little coiffe hats trimmed in tiny tassels ringed in fur.

Versions of M. Saint Laurent's oriental look were certain to exert a strong influence on international mass production in the coming months.

M. Saint Laurent also adopted a Mongolian theme, with wonderful cloaks and capes in

velvet or satin, and deep-cowled hoods trimmed in fox, mink or sable.

Satin pants were under stiffened tunics with enormous puffed sleeves and lavish fur trims.

The Chinese theme was dominant but M. Saint Laurent skipped around the globe and through centuries with abandon, using long lengths as the common denominator.

Cashmere and velvet in sheer-ribbed jerseys had a Medieval feel suggesting a monk's robe, bloused low around the hips and tied with a long tasseled cord.

There were pilgrim and shepherd's cloaks with belmies cut shorter than the accompanying skirt or dress.

Other themes featured soft, seductive boudoir dresses with leg-o-mutton sleeves which could have been worn in "Gone With the Wind."

The boudoir was personified by floating chiffon dresses flounced all around in sheer lace. About 50 per cent of the collection was solid black.



CALIFORNIA FIRE -- A fireman is silhouetted against the flames of a burning house in Santa Barbara, California, Tuesday night. A fast moving brush fire, now finally put out, has burned 385 homes in this luxury resort town and forced 3,000 people to flee for safety. (AP wirephoto).

Israeli police say blast injures 29

TEL AVIV, July 28 (Agencies). — Israeli police said that 29 persons were injured, one of them seriously, when an explosive charge went off under a stall in the Beer Saba vegetable market today.

Two of those hurt suffered medium injuries. Police had earlier reported only three casualties. Most of the wounded were

sent home after first aid treatment, the police said.

They said the stall owner was seriously wounded.

Police said they detained several people for questioning.

An explosive charge was found in the Beer Saba market earlier this week but was removed before it did any damage, police said.

The blast was the third in 24 hours in Israel.

Thirteen people were wounded in the two other explosions -- the last in Tel Aviv early yesterday.

Police sources said the bombings of public areas were the work of Palestinian organisations determined to make their presence felt at a time when a Geneva peace conference was being discussed.

Police expect weekend anti-nuclear demonstration at French power plant

PARIS, July 28 (R). — French authorities today banned anti-nuclear groups from demonstrating this weekend at the Rhone Valley site of France's first commercial fast-breeder power plant.

More than 2,000 "riot" police

and para-military gendarmes have already taken up action stations around Creys-Malville, where the fast-breeder is being built.

Authorities in the Isere Department where the reactor site is located imposed a 25 sq. kms. forbidden zone around "Super Phenix".

Only local people will be allowed to move around inside the zone from midnight tonight, and the security forces will try to keep out the demonstrators, expected to number tens of thousands.

Local prefect government representative Rene Janin said today this did not rule out the possibility of clashes and has asked for medical services to be reinforced during the weekend. There were rumours that paratroopers had been ordered in to strengthen the security forces, but local officials denied this.

Here's why development of U.S. nuclear bomb was hastened in 1950

WASHINGTON, July 28 (AFP). — The first atomic test by the Soviet Union in 1949 provoked a complete revision of U.S. foreign policy and hastened development of the U.S. nuclear bomb, a study of the cold war years revealed yesterday.

U.S. policy-makers concluded, in 1950, that the Soviet Union's atomic capacity "mortally challenged" the United States, the study said.

The study, Shattered Peace: The Origins of the Cold War and the National Security State, said the U.S. policy revision was based on a memorandum code-named NSC-58.

The memorandum warned President Harry Truman: "The Soviet Union, unlike previous aspirants to hegemony, is animated by a new fanatic faith, antithetical to our own, and seeks to impose its absolute authority over the rest of the world."

President Truman was told that the USSR was spending 13.6 per cent of its gross national product on military affairs -- twice the U.S. amount.

The study says that the U.S. president, who had fixed a ceiling on military spending of \$15,000 million, immediately changed his policy and authorised much larger spending.

Officials said nobody was hurt in the accident and the government has since announced it intends to press ahead with France's ambitious nuclear power programme.

France has no oil and the Giscard administration is depending on nuclear power to meet the country's growing energy needs.

Filipino peace talks to resume

MANILA, July 28 (R). — Negotiations between the Philippines government and leaders of the Moslem rebel Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) should resume soon under the auspices of the Islamic Nations Conference, Libyan Ambassador Mustafa Dreiza said here today.

Talks aimed at ending the MNLF's five-year-old rebellion in the southwestern Philippines collapsed last April.

But Mr. Dreiza told foreign correspondents both sides had now indicated they were prepared to resume the negotiations.

He said the talks, like the previous ones will be held under the mediation of the Islamic Conference quadripartite committee of Libya, Saudi Arabia, Somalia and Senegal.

The MNLF has been battling for Moslem regional autonomy in the 13 southwestern provinces containing the bulk of the largely-Christian country's Moslem minority.

British plan for Mideast peace, newspaper reports

KUWAIT, July 28 (AFP). — British has drawn up plans to solve the M.E. crisis involving the step-by-step creation of a Palestinian state, the Kuwaiti paper Al Qabas said today. It said the plan, presented by British delegate Dennis Walter to the June Luxembourg meeting of the Parliamentary Euro-Arab Council, foresaw an independent Palestinian state being set up after the withdrawal of Israel from all occupied Arab territory and the Old City of Jerusalem. These territories, the newspaper said, would be demilitarised and handed over to an international administration as a first step. They would then come under an elected Palestinian administration before passing to an independent Palestinian government. Mutual recognition by Israel and the Arab countries would take place after the state's creation, and international guarantees would be given to all the region's states. The newspaper said that under the plan, approved by the British government, the Old City of Jerusalem would come under international administration while the new city would be Israel's official capital. Palestinian refugees from 1948 would receive compensation from a special fund set up for the purpose with major Israeli participation, the newspaper added. These refugees would not be allowed to return to Israel for many years and then only on the authority of the Israeli government. As for refugees after 1948, they would be established in the new Palestinian state.

Pakistanis fire across Indian border

NEW DELHI, July 28 (AFP). — A Defence Ministry spokesman here today denied a local press report that there had been exchanges of fire between Indian and Pakistani forces in the Kashmir region, resulting in casualties.

He said there had been firing, but all from Pakistani side and it was not returned by the Indian side.

The local pro-Soviet newspaper Patriot had reported that at least seven Pakistanis and

three Indian army personnel were injured in exchanges of fire in the Poonch sector of Jammu and Kashmir over the past six days. It had attributed the report to informed sources.

The spokesman said the Pakistani firing took place at various times at Poonch over the last few days. He described the firing as ineffective.

He also denied that any Pakistani soldiers or commandos had been captured, as claimed in the report.

New Sri Lanka cabinet will probe corruption

COLOMBO, July 28 (R). — The new Sri Lanka government yesterday decided to probe alleged corruption among local officials and to appoint a minister to each of the island's 22 revenue districts, official sources said. A cabinet meeting in the hill town of Kandy, 113 kms. northeast of here, also decided to draw up a code of ethics for parliamentarians and civil servants, the sources said. One measure decreed under the new code is that only one minister will represent the government at cocktail parties and similar functions. The cabinet meeting, the first to be held outside Colombo, convened after Prime Minister Junius Jayewardene had made a pilgrimage to Sri Lanka's most sacred Buddhist shrine in the hills of Kandy.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

U.S., Italy talk uranium supplies

* WASHINGTON, July 28 (AFP). — The United States is looking into ways of financing Italy's nuclear power programme and of offering it permanent supplies of natural uranium, a White House statement said yesterday. The statement was issued after the second meeting in two days between President Jimmy Carter and Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti. It said the two leaders expressed their intention "to enhance and reinvigorate cooperation through the International Energy Agency and bilaterally." They also agreed that the defence of human rights was "an important element in the process of détente," according to the statement.

Guinea-Bissau's Cabral in Somalia

* MOGADISHU, July 28 (R). — President Luis Cabral of Guinea-Bissau has arrived here for a 24-hour visit aimed at strengthening relations between his country and Somalia. President Cabral told reporters after arriving yesterday his visit was intended to strengthen friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

Kuwait dissolves cultural club

* KUWAIT, July 28 (R). — The Kuwaiti Minister of Labour and Social Affairs, Sheikh Salem Al Sabah, has ordered the dissolution of the Ishtigal (Independence) Club, one of the state's major cultural and social clubs. In a statement published here today, the minister said the club was being disbanded and its property liquidated because its members refused to cooperate with a government-appointed executive. The club's elected executive was dismissed by the minister last year for signing a statement opposing the government's dissolution of the Kuwaiti National Assembly. The minister said the club was prevented by its statutes from dealing with political matters. The executives of several other clubs and professional societies which signed the anti-government statement were also replaced by the minister.

Smith concerned about coloured family

* SALISBURY, July 28 (R). — Rhodesian Premier Ian Smith has promised to investigate the plight of a coloured (mixed-race) family threatened with eviction from their home because they live in a whites-only suburb. "An most concerned about this unfortunate incident which is totally out of keeping with what we are trying to achieve in Rhodesia," he said in a statement. "I have asked for the full facts of this case to be obtained for me." Mr. George Adams, his wife Florrie and their four children have been told by Salisbury City Council it is going to enforce a prohibition order in their title deeds which states the Salisbury suburb of Prospect is reserved for whites only. The Adams have been living in a bungalow of four acres of land in Prospect for two years. Mr. Adams works for a firm which erects security fences around military establishments and farms in areas threatened by black nationalist guerrillas. His 23-year-old son Trevor is in the armed forces.

Moving mountains in central Asia

* MOSCOW, July 28 (AFP). — The two massive mountain ranges in central Asia, the Pamirs and the Tian Shan, are moving towards each other at the rate of more than 1 cm. a year, the Soviet news agency Tass said today. This movement, long suspected by scientists, was confirmed by photographs taken from Soviet space vehicles, according to Mr. Raouf Baratov, Director of the Tadzhikistan Geological Institute. By studying this movement, which is a major cause of earthquakes, scientists could learn to protect massive structures against tremors, he said. Mr. Baratov pointed out that this movement was not enough to be "catastrophic".

Electricity failure hits Panama

* PANAMA CITY, July 28 (R). — The entire metropolitan area of Panama, including Panama City and all Panamanian towns on both sides of the Panama Canal, was blacked out early today by a power failure. The blackout affected about half of Panama's 1.5 million people. It was not immediately clear if the U.S.-controlled canal zone was also hit. A power company spokesman said it would be many hours before power was restored.

One year after the disastrous earthquake official China hardly mentions Tang Shan

PEKING, July 28 (Agencies). — The First anniversary of the Tang Shan earthquake, the worst disaster in modern history, passed almost without notice here today.

Apart from a second-page article in the People's Daily there was nothing to remind the Chinese of the tragedy that flattened Tang Shan and killed at least 750,000 people.

The article reported that some People's Liberation Army units had received special commendations for their role in the earthquake relief operation.

One company in the railway corps was given the title: "Shock company in rush-repair work in the anti-quake and relief work in Tang Shan."

There was no other mention of the disaster but in north China evidence of the earthquake still abounds. Tang Shan, once an industrial city of more than a million people, remains a ruin.

A traveller who passed through Tang Shan, 160 kms. east of here, by train today described it as "rubble, rubble... just rubble."

In Peking and numerous other towns and villages which felt last July's quake, there are still mud-built shelters on the pavements. Over the past year they have been gradually reinforced and refined. Some of the shelters here have wooden doors, window

frames, electric power and a few have tiny gardens.

Theoretically, northeast China is still on earthquake alert. Officials never lifted the last warning that another aftershock could strike at any moment.

Tonight several embassies were planning earthquake anniversary parties but not the Chinese. They were instructed to fumigate their homes and workplaces -- part of an annual drive against mosquitoes.

Most Chinese know less about the horror of Tang Shan than the outside world. The casualty figure has never been published here, but officials long ago acknowledged that at least 750,000 and possibly more than 800,000 people died.

Even in Peking, despite the distance, the shock was very strong and caused dozens of deaths. It also destroyed or seriously damaged tens of thousands of buildings, small shops, and brick houses in the city and its outskirts.

The quake registered 8.2 on the Richter scale.

While the population reacted calmly and rescue work was organised with exceptional rapidity, the first tremor was followed by numerous aftershocks, including a very strong one registering 7.9 on the Richter scale which raised the casualty toll and caused further damage on the evening of the same day.

When inhabitants were told not to return to their homes,

tens of millions of people hurriedly built temporary shelters in the streets and fields with all available materials.

Their nightmare worsened when torrential rains fell for 48 hours, rumbling shaken by uses and hindering rescue work while the ground shook regularly.

The Chinese authorities were completely taken off their guard by the tremor despite a sprawling, unique network of amateur seismologists working in the field in coordination with professional stations and observatories.

Fears of a fresh serious tremor nearer the capital spawned a veritable psychosis. All Peking's foreign community, numbering about 3,000, lived in tents or on the ground floors of embassies. The authorities even organised an airlift to evacuate families and all non-essential diplomatic staff to Canton and Hong Kong.

A Chinese source said that in Tang Shan itself, the authorities had to burn the bodies of the dead or bury them with bulldozers to avoid epidemics.

A year later, Tang Shan is still a desolate scene. Almost everything is in ruins, with damaged buildings and factories sticking up like buckled metallic skeletons. And, probably for fear of fresh tremors, no provisional shelters with roofs held down by bricks or small low houses were built.

Reconstructed or damaged villages along a stretch of many kilometres of the railway on both sides of Tang Shan and hundreds of small graves are a stark reminder of the disaster.

In what was one of China's most active industrial cities smoke from factories showed, however, that life has resumed despite the huge shantytown Tang Shan has become.

The tremor had major political and economic, as well as human and social, consequences. The official press then seemed to indicate that serious rifts had arisen among Chinese leaders over the way to organise rescue work and to rebuild production.

Shortly after the purge of the "gang of four" radicals, their "pericious influence" was blamed for the failure to give quake warnings, which could have considerably reduced the number of victims.

The quake also caused a serious problem in the maintenance of order to avoid robberies, looting and all kinds of criminal acts committed by the "class enemies".

The economy suffered seriously. The country's main coal mines at Kailuan were hit hard and their shafts and pits collapsed.

Cement and steel factories and various small industries were seriously damaged, or even destroyed. But, to the amazement of the whole world, China refused to accept any foreign aid, remaining faithful to its principle of "counting on its own forces."